

SPENDS MILLIONS ON NEW HIGHWAYS

Virginia Is Investing Greater Amount Each Month on Permanent Roads.

SOUTHWEST IS MOST ACTIVE

Wise Leads in Bond Issues. Roads Now Connect for Long Stretches.

Approximately \$7,500,000 has been spent in Virginia in the construction of permanent roads during the last four years, under the direction of the State Highway Commission, whose annual report is now in the hands of the printer. The exact amount would be difficult to ascertain, since in many instances the convict camps collide with State money and also with county appropriations.

The thing has been cumulative. One after another the counties and cities have gotten into line and made special appropriations and issued bonds for permanent improvements to the public highways. In many cases projected bond issues, first defeated, have been later approved by the voters, indicating the growth of sentiment.

Mecklenburg Awake.
Among the counties that have been most active in taking advantage of State aid to good roads and in going into their own pockets for large appropriations is Mecklenburg. The map issued by Commissioner Wilson, to be part of his report, shows a perfect network of the red lines that indicate road building. Radiating from Boydton, from Chase City, from South Hill and from Clarksville, roads go in all directions, most of them connecting these prosperous towns in that progressive county.

Culpeper and Orange show extensive road work, and the lines in the map indicate a definite purpose of reaching traveled routes and of having connected roads. The northern part of Spotsylvania County is thick with lines. Henrico has a very respectable share, indeed, in this marking, as have Dinwiddie, Nansemond, Brunswick, Nottingham, Augusta and Halifax.

Southwest Leads.
But it is the Southwest that leads all the rest in the matter of road building. Wise County is first in the State having voted more than \$1,000,000 in bonds for permanent highways, all of which is not yet expended. The county is now nearly covered by a system of roads that will be there always, affording travel in all directions. The cost of construction there is very great, for the county is nearly all mountains, and grading is a tremendous item. Besides, the proportion of farming land is not large. But the mine owners, who pay the bulk of the taxes, have not hesitated to endorse the bond issues and stand for the taxation necessary to provide interest and redemption funds.

Tazewell, also in the Southwest, next with a bond issue of \$250,000. This was not accomplished without a good deal of strife, accompanied by the usual argument of "paying as you go," but opposition is said to be now nearly a thing of the past. With the single exception of Mecklenburg, Tazewell shows more completed and prospective roads than any other county in the State.

Could Take Long Trips.
With the building of all the roads authorized in the Southwest, it will be possible to travel over modern highways from Richmond, Va., on the State line, through Tazewell, Russell, Wise and Lee counties, to the Tennessee and Kentucky borders, with but one or two small gaps. Or, with a road projected from Abingdon, through a gap of the mountains into Russell County, a trip may be made from Bristol to Bluefield.

As far as the Southwest is concerned, the Bristol-to-Washington highway is almost a fact. A continuous line carries a road through Washington County and most of Smyth. Wythe County is coming its part to a point near Pulaski County, through which the chain is almost complete. Montgomery is likely to be the stumbling block, for that county has apparently not caught the good roads fever. Nor has Buchanan, which is mostly mountain. Scott and Giles have used up their part of the State aid in building bridges.

Five Millions of Bonds.
Counties authorizing bond issues up to September 30, 1912, are as follows, having been several additional since, including Wise County: Accomack (Atlantic district), \$50,000; Amherst, \$50,000; Amherst (second issue), \$125,000; Augusta (one district), \$250,000; Brunswick (two districts), \$54,000; Charlotte (one district), \$100,000; Culpeper (one district), \$120,000; Dickinson (one district), \$54,000; Dinwiddie, \$102,000; Fauquier (one district), \$75,000; Greensville, \$82,000; Lee (four districts), \$354,000; Lunenburg (Brooks district), \$40,000; Mecklenburg (seven districts), \$250,000; Norfolk, \$200,000; Northampton (one district), \$50,000; Orange (one district), \$50,000; Orange (two additional districts), \$125,000; Pittsylvania (one district), \$100,000; Pulaski (one district), \$70,000; Pulaski (Dublin district), \$100,000; Rappahannock (one district), \$50,000; Rockingham (one district), \$30,000; Russell, \$150,000; Russell (second issue), \$275,000; Smyth (one district), \$100,000; Spotsylvania (two districts), \$100,000; Stafford, \$100,000; Tazewell, \$250,000; Warren (one district), \$50,000; Washington, \$200,000; Wise (first issue), \$700,000. Total \$4,000,000.

GREAT INTEREST IN Y. M. C. A. WORK

Ambitious Plans Found for Its Further Development at V. P. I.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Blacksburg, Va., April 13.—Officers of the Young Men's Christian Association for next year have recently been installed as follows: Philip H. Powers, president; E. C. Hill, vice-president; H. M. Somerville, secretary; A. P. Sibold, treasurer. W. H. Wade has been chosen chairman of the committee on Bible study; W. G. Wyser, on membership; A. T. Phillips, on publication; F. R. Bailey, on mission study; S. T. Preston, on public affairs; P. R. Scott, on finance; and Armstrong Chinn, on social service.

There has been a considerable deepening of interest this spring in the work of the Y. M. C. A., and very ambitious plans have been formed for its further development next year. The work of the social service committee is being emphasized and some of the members have taken up a much-needed service among the boys of the town, and in the country Sunday schools near by. The meetings com-

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ENDS SUCCESSFUL REVIVAL



Wait Holcomb, Nashville, Tenn., who has just closed a successful union revival in Petersburg.

News of Petersburg

Times-Dispatch Bureau,
5 Bollingbrook Street
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Petersburg, Va., April 13.

The secret of the success of the next postmaster of Petersburg still remains with Congressman Walter A. Watson, the appointment, as is understood, to be made on his recommendation. His decision as between the four aspirants, it is believed, will be announced this week, and the impression is that his choice will be either R. P. Barham or Robert G. Bass.

mainly from the current revenues. Under the provisions of the new bond issue additional and extensive public improvements are to be made along the same line, as well as in other respects. Every part of the city has been and is to be benefited by these improvements. The city is putting on an appearance altogether attractive, and is rapidly improving its sanitary condition also.

Personal and Otherwise.

Mayor George Cameron, Jr., and Mrs. Cameron returned from Baltimore yesterday afternoon. Mayor Cameron, whose health has been delicate for some weeks, consulted specialists while in Baltimore, and returns much encouraged by their diagnosis of his case. The Holcomb evangelistic meetings closed to-night. They were most successful in the great number of conversions and reclamations resulting. The Rev. Lewis M. Repor, D. D., pastor of the First Baptist Church, will conduct a series of evangelistic meetings at the Northside Baptist Church in Richmond this week and next week. Many representatives from this city and the counties adjacent will attend the Southern Educational Conference to be held in Richmond this week. George A. Gray, the aviator, proposed to ascend in his aeroplane from the baseball park to-morrow afternoon, to circle over the city and then make his flight to Richmond, should the weather be favorable. A number of people in automobiles will follow along after him on the turnpike road.

WILL SUBMIT CASES.

Prisoners Charged With Illicit Sale of Whiskey on Way to Danville.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Bristol, Va., April 13.—Deputy Marshal Addison, of Wise County, accompanied by M. G. Ely, the Jonesville attorney, were here this evening en route for Federal court at Danville with a party of Federal prisoners who desired to submit their cases, rather than remain in jail until the next term of court at Big Stone Gap. The prisoners, all of whom are charged with the illicit sale of whiskey, are from Lee-James, Ogle, David Bishop, James Stephens and John Chidress; from Wise—Sam Mullens and F. Donaldson. This being the prisoners' second offense, he has a year in Federal prison coming.

ASHLAND NEWS NOTES

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Ashland, Va., April 13.—"The Rose Maiden" will be rendered by the Ashland Choral Club on Monday night, April 21, in the college chapel. The club will be assisted by Mrs. J. C. Blasingame, soprano; Miss Lancaster, contralto; Mr. Bryant, tenor, and Dr. Kohlman, baritone, of Richmond. Mrs. William M. Lasher, accompanist, and R. C. Samsbury, of Richmond, director.

S. S. Scott, of Bedford City, recently visited his son, Russell Scott, of Randolph-Macon College. Miss Margaret Noland, of Richmond, is the guest of Mrs. Overton Howard. Miss Katherine O. Kent is visiting friends in Fredericksburg.

Mrs. S. H. Spiers, of Prince George County, and Miss Lucy Cardwell, of Hanover, have returned to their homes after visiting Mrs. John Howard. Miss Carrie Leftwich, who has been quite sick at the Henry Clay Inn, has entirely recovered.

Mrs. Rudd, of Lynchburg, is the guest of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Rudd. Mrs. George Easter has concluded her visit to Mrs. L. T. W. Marye and returned to her home in Maryland. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Seher are guests of Mrs. C. C. Rodeker.

The Young Women's Literary Club met on Thursday. The program consisted of two papers by Miss Epie Blackwell, on "Corot; Millet," and Miss Mary Goodwin on "French Court Painters." Both were very interesting and well written. Miss Margaret Tucker conducted the discussion on current events.

Mrs. Edmund Coo is visiting her aunt, Mrs. H. A. Ellis. Elliott M. Jordan, of Florence, S. C., was in town on Friday visiting friends. Mr. and Mrs. Luther P. Hartsock have returned from West Virginia, and are at the Henry Clay Inn until their home on College Avenue is finished. One of the most attractive card parties of the season was given on Friday afternoon by Mrs. Anna Carr, when she entertained the Bridge Club. Vases of pink and white carnations and Southern smilax were used in decorating, and a delightful salad course was served. Miss Elise Cardwell won the guest prize, while Mrs. James Howison captured the club prize. Mrs. Carr's guests were Mesdames: John Addison, A. E. Gallbert, James Chenery, James Howison, Frank Wright, Scholar Box, Hill Carter, Jr., A. E. Gray, Overton Howard, M. D. Hart, Misses Elise Cardwell, Anna Vaden, Leon Redd, Julia Welshiger, Christine Cooke, Carolyn Marsh.

GRATIFYING CHURCH REPORTS.

Regular Quarterly Meeting of Second Presbyterian Congregation.

At the regular quarterly meeting of the members of the Second Presbyterian Church, after the morning service to-day, the reports of the year's work of the church and all the various societies were read. All of the reports were very encouraging, and showed increases in all departments. The Paterson Bible Class, the men's organization of the Sabbath school, reported an increase of attendance and enrollment of 120 per cent. The Yohannan Society, which supports Isaac E. Yohannan, a missionary to the Mohammedans of Persia, reported the payment of all indebtedness and a larger balance carried into the ensuing year than was begun with. The aggregate of gifts to the benevolent causes of the church were larger than those of any previous year.

The budget system inaugurated by the general assembly of the church has been indorsed and placed in operation by the Second Church congregation for the present year.

The receipts of the church from all sources the past year were \$7,644.30. The current expenses were \$5,945.92. During the year the church gave for benevolences \$3,241.40. Included in these were foreign and home missions, presbyterial and congregational missions, Christian education and ministerial relief, and various other causes.

NEGRO ATTEMPTS SUICIDE.

Tries to Drink Carbolic Acid, but Is Prevented by Mother.

Preston Edmonds, a young colored man employed as driver at the store of J. A. Lanier, Sycamore Street, attempted to end his life last night by drinking carbolic acid at his home, in Barton Alley. It is said that he had been drinking quite freely. But for the presence and promptness of his mother in grasping the bottle and taking it away from him, he might have carried out his intention. His mother's hands were sharply burned by the spilling of the acid.

DEATH OF R. A. BROWN.

Veteran Employee at State Hospital Dies After Short Illness.

R. A. Brown, who for many years has been at the Central State Hospital, died this morning in his apartments at the hospital, after a comparatively brief illness. He was recently operated on for some trouble. Mr. Brown was fifty-two years old, and is survived by his wife and two daughters. He was much respected, and was one of the most valued employees at the hospital.

SHIFTING ENGINE DERAILED.

Caboose Also Leaves Track, but No Damage Is Done.

The shifting engine and a caboose car on the Seaboard Air Line Railroad were derailed this morning at Lafayette Street. No damage was done. The caboose car was stopped squarely across Lafayette Street, blocking that thoroughfare to vehicles. The engine and car were put aright by the wrecking crew this evening.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT WORK.

Every Part of City to Be Benefited by Future Expenditures.

In the way of the extension of the sewer and water system of the city, and in the pavement of streets and sidewalks, a vast deal of work has been recently done, and much is under way and in contemplation of the money thus expended. The money has come

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